I use an independent ISP because I like having the very quick and helpful service that I get, compared to friends who get their DSL directly from SBC. While I know that my DSL $\,$

service is provided in the end by SBC, the independent services keep pressure on SBC to $\,$

maintain reasonable service and prices. The local phone services $\mathsf{TRULY}\ \mathsf{NEED}\ \mathsf{to}$ be

regulated and required to provide services through independents to protect consumers.